


The BRAINWAVES Club



Term 1 2021: DinoMites – Year 1 and 2

Venue: Ryde Public School

Term Fee: \$285.00

THE CONNECTION CRUSADE

DinoMites, did you know that learning something new creates brand new connections in your brain? So, brace yourselves for a network building journey of epic proportions! Be sure to back your scientific satchel, your creativity case and your problem-solving pocketbook as we embark on an expedition where we seek evidence to help us with tower building, kite flying and puzzle solving. Is your brain ready for this?

6 February

Meeting 1: A Weighting Game

Focus: Science, Technology, History

Have you ever wondered what a ton of feathers would look like compared to a ton of lead? Have you ever had to weigh your suitcase when you fly on a plane? Today we will explore the history of the devices used to weigh everyday objects and materials. We will predict what materials will weigh and test our predictions. We will make our own simple weighing device based on the beam scales and discover the concepts of density and volume. I bet you can't *weight* for this meeting!

20 February

Meeting 2: What Plant is this?

Focus: Literature and Botany

Did you know that the famous children's writer Beatrix Potter was also a botanist? She spent many hours exploring the natural world and learning about plants. Before the age of the camera, people like her and Joseph Banks who was Captain Cook's official botanist made meticulous drawings of plants and animals so that we could know what they were and what they looked like. Can you imagine how surprised the English people were when they saw drawings of Kangaroos for the first time? Today we will don our gardening hats and gloves and explore the surrounding plant specimens and bring some of them back to draw, measure, test and document.

6 March

Meeting 3: Toppling Towers

Focus: Design, Engineering

In today's meeting, the DinoMites' mission will be to build the tallest tower possible with the materials available and place a weight on the top without it toppling over. What do you have to consider to construct a stable tower? We explore tall towers' biggest nemesis: gravity and then how earthquakes also cause problems. Using this knowledge, you will build your towers to overcome these obstacles. The tallest and most stable tower is the winner! We will compete in two rounds, one using a prototype design and the second using analysis of your first build. Will your tower be a toppling tower, or will you succeed at building a tower that withstands the test?

20 March

Meeting 4: The Brain Between My Ears

Focus: Science, Technology, Philosophy

Science and poetry haven't always got along but many poets and artists have also loved science, the English poet Keats studied medicine and Leonardo Da Vinci was a scientist as well as an artist. Leonardo used the science of measurement to draw his ideal human form. Today we will read Edgar Allen Poe's poem called Sonnet to Science and we will explore the difference between what we know to be true and what we can imagine. We will create a three dimensional model of the brain and create words, ideals and imaginings that reside between our ears. We will call this endeavor a three dimensional poem.

What to bring:

Each week please bring an A4 notebook with blank pages for drawing and a well-stocked pencil case containing pens, pencils, a roll of masking tape and some scissors. Please also bring a hat, drink and snack for the break (no nuts please).

About the Club Leader: Lucinda Clutterbuck

Lucinda is an artist and animator with a passion for learning and thinking. She has produced over 30 short animations and she has run workshops for all ages using animation and art techniques, as well as cross-curricular programs. She loves to work with like-minded individuals of all ages and the pursuit of knowledge. Lucinda thrives on helping children experience the flow of creative thinking, especially for problem solving.